A.—(*a*) About 19 miles of the high level channel have been excavated to the end of June 1933. The land acquisition is likely to be completed by the end of April 1934.

(*b*) 20,552 acres.

Land Revenue Administration

Pattas to houses in the Chintadripet division.

* 61 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the practice of issuing pattas by the Collector to houses in the Chintadripet division of the Madras City has been discontinued and, if so, why;

(*b*) to whom such powers have been transferred;

(*c*) whether any protests or representations have been made against the new procedure;

(*d*) whether the Government are satisfied that the authority to whom such power has been transferred has made necessary arrangements for properly keeping records, copies, etc.; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the new authority is charging more fees than the Government used to do?

A.—(*a*) to (*e*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

The Government have received no protests or representations relating to the procedure followed.

Local Self-Government

Dissolution of the Panchayat Board, Komarapalaiyam, Salem district.

* 62 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) on what grounds the Panchayat Board at Komarapalaiyam in Salem district was dissolved recently;

(*b*) on whose report such an action was taken;

(*c*) whether it is on the report of the President, Salem District Board;

(*d*) whether the Government were aware that the latter was interested in one of the parties there;

(*e*) whether the sitting president and some member of the panchayat put in their representations and, if so, whether their representations have been considered;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the finances of the panchayat were well regulated during the regime of the sitting President Mr. J. K. Kandaswami Chettiyar;

(*g*) what the panchayat board, the tāluk board and the district board said in the matter of dissolution of the said panchayat and whether copies of their resolutions will be placed on the table;

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(h) why was not the matter ordered to be enquired into by an independent and disinterested authority such as the Collector or the Deputy Collector;

(i) who has been appointed as Special Officer after dissolution and on whose recommendation; and

(j) whether it is a fact that ordinarily men in regular service are taken for such offices instead of retired men?

A.—(a) The panchayat board was superseded and not dissolved. The grounds for supersession are set forth in G.O. No. 1473, L. & M., dated 12th April 1933, copy [a] of which is placed on the table.

(b) & (c) On receipt of several petitions from certain members of the panchayat board regarding the maladministration of the panchayat and serious irregularities on the part of the president and his supporters, Government caused an enquiry to be made by the President, District Board, Salem, and on his report took further action which the situation demanded.

(d) Government have received representations alleging that the enquiry conducted by the president of the district board was vitiated by personal bias.

(e) Yes.

(f) Government are not aware of the fact.

(g) Copies [b] of the proceedings of the panchayat board, the taluk board and the district board are placed on the table.

(h) Government did not think that such a course was necessary.

(i) Mr. S. Ramachandra Ayyar, retired Revenue Inspector, was appointed as special officer on the recommendation of the president, district board.

(j) Not necessarily; the most suitable man available is selected for the post.

Alleged irregularities in the administration of the Tanjore Municipality.

* 63 Q.—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Councillors of the Tanjore Municipality have submitted a memorial to the Government in January or February last alleging certain grave irregularities in the administration of that municipality;

(b) whether the Government have directed the Collector of Tanjore to investigate into the same; and

(c) if so, whether they will place the report submitted by the Collector to the Government on the table of the House?

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a Printed as Appendix I on page 237 infra.

b Printed as Appendix II on pages 238—241 infra.